

THE PARISH MESSENGER

A PERSONAL VISITOR TO THE PARISHES

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, JUNE, 1957



Pastor Olafur Skulason
Host Pastor

WELCOME!

MOUNTAIN PARISH

Welcomes You to the
73rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the
ICELANDIC SYNOD

of the
**UNITED LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA**

JUNE 23 to 26, 1957



Vikur Church — Oldest Church Edifice in Synod.

SYNOD – ONWARD AND FORWARD

Now that your present Editor is about to retire as such, it may seem strange to some of you that he should choose this topic as his "Swan Song."

On the other hand, though the sunset years are crowding upon him, his sights are quite clear, thanks to his Faith in God and YOU. Our Leader, Jesus Christ, has lead us so far, and He will continue to lead us onward and forward to the end.

When we survey, even from this distance, our many Parishes and the recent advancements made in identifying ourselves with the Communities surrounding our Churches, we seem to sense that the possibilities for Kingdom Progress through the instrumentality of our Synod and its commitments are boundless.

Many of you have been renewed and richly blessed by the Evangelism Rallies of the past year. You have learned to harness the Power of Prayer for use in your own inner lives as well as on behalf of the Onward, Forward March of the Fellowship of Believers in each Parish. You have also come to realize that Jesus knew what He was doing when He sent out His Disciples of old, two by two. This technique is as new today as it was then. We have adopted it and made it our own method because it was His. Therefore, we are coming to use it more and more as we seek to do our Father's Will in extending His Kingdom in our midst.

God bless the very few remaining in our land who probably need the medium of the language of their native land to satisfy the expressions of their hearts' desires in the act of public worship. They are for the most part to be found spending their Sunset Years in our Homes for the Aged. They are easily reached and can be served by our bi-lingual Pastors wherever they are. And since, to all intents and purposes, in the course of time, we have become an English speaking Synod, our Ministry should not have to be handicapped linguistically, one way or another.

And furthermore, since the Language Barrier is down in our Synod, we should, more than ever before, be able to welcome into our fellowship of Common Worship any citizens of our communities regardless of national or language background.

Whatever the decisions of Synod assembled in Convention this year may be in regard to the future of the organization of Synod, its name and its usefulness, let us make and accept these decisions with an onward, forward look, **determined that the sacrifices of our forefathers shall not have been in vain.**

In Conclusion:-

We must express our appreciation and special thanks to the Parish Reporters who have been so regular and prompt in their co-operation during our Editorship. Without their help, I am sure, **The Parish Messenger** would have fallen by the wayside long ago. We are also most grateful to all who have contributed Special Feature articles and reports during the years. God bless you all.

We covet the same willingness and support for our successor. VALE.

THE PARISH MESSENGER

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Avangelical Lutheran Synod of
America.

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1613 Elm Street
San Carlos Calif., U.S.A.



ORDINATION SERVICE

On May 26th, 1957, the St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Ill., (Augustana Synod) Rev. Harold Skillrud, Pastor, was the scene of a very largely attended and impressive ordination service, when one of the sons of the congregation, Albert C. Neubauer was ordained to the ministry of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Neubauer graduated this year from the Northwest Seminary in Minneapolis, and having accepted a Call to the congregation of our Synod (Icelandic) at Blaine, Wash., was ordained by President Eylands, upon invitation from his home congregation.

Rev. Neubauer is a man of mature years and has had considerable experience as a business man and as Christian worker. He was at one

time the manager of a Lutheran Home, and later served as business manager for the United Lutheran Church Mission in Liberia. In 1941 he was married to Edna Nord, also a native of Bloomington.

Following the ordination service a large reception was held in honor of the new pastor and his wife; many speeches were delivered, all unanimous in expressing the high esteem in which this couple is held in their home town.

The photograph shows how President Eylands places the stole, the symbol of the ministerial office, around the neck of the ordinand. Pastor Skillrud, who also assisted at the ordination service, is standing to the left.



SCHEDULE FOR SYNOD CONVENTION

Seventy-Third Annual Convention, Mountain, N. Dak., June 23-26th, 1957
SATURDAY JUNE 22nd:

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Registration of Delegates and Guests at Vikur Church, Mountain, N. Dak.

Supper served in homes of hosts.

8:00 p.m. Locally sponsored program open to delegates and guests.

10:00 p.m. Meeting of Executive Committee of Synod.

(Continued on Page 4)

Schedule for Synod Convention cont. from Page 3

SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd:

- 11:00 a.m. Worship services in all churches of the Parish and at Borg Home.
 Vikur: Dr. V. J. Eylands and Dr. H. Sigmar. 75th Anniversary Service.
 Borg: Rev. S. Olafsson (Icel.)
 Eyford: Rev. E. S. Brynjolfsson (Icel.)
 Gardar: Rev. E. H. Sigmar and Rev. O. Jack Larson.
 Fjalla: Rev. O. Skulason and Rev. A. Neubauer.
 Vidalsins: Rev. J. Fredriksson and Rev. Norman Nelson.
 Hallson and Peter's: Rev. Edward Day.
- 2:30 p.m. Outdoor Rally at Mountain Park:
 Rev. O. Skulason presiding.
 Main Address: Rev. Dr. R. H. Gerberding, Official Representative of the U.L.C.A.
 Greetings: Mr. Freeman Einarson, State Representative, represent-Governor of North Dakota.
 Dr. V. J. Eylands, Synod President.
 Dr. H. Sigmar, Former Synod President and Former Pastor of Mountain Parish.
 Musical Numbers by the Mass Choir of the Parish, and the Gardar Band.
 Special Offering for Lutheran World Action.
- 5:00 p.m. Supper served by Mountain Ladies' Aid; Vikur Church Social Hall.
- 8:00 p.m. Official Opening of Convention in Vikur Church:
 Worship Service with Holy Communion. Dedication of New Pulpit and Lectern.
 Liturgist: Rev. O. Skulason; Sermon: Rev. E. H. Sigmar.
 Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Eylands. Mass Choir of Parish, directed by T. Thorleifson. Organist: Mrs. Wm. Olgeirson.
 (Special Offering in memory of Pastor G. Guttormsson, Pastor's Memorial Fund.)
 Order for the opening of Synod: President Eylands.
 Presidents Report. Appointment of Convention Committees.
- 10:00 p.m. Refreshments served by Mountain Ladies' Aid.

MONDAY, JUNE 24th:

- 9:00 a.m. Devotions: Pastor Norman Nelson, Calvary Church, Seattle.
 Business Session:
 Reports of Officers: Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Committee Chairman.
 Report of Credentials Committee.
 Report of Committee on Reference and Counsel (Resolutions).
 Report of Betel Committee. Borg Home Report.
 Report of Lutheran Women's League: Discussion and Resolution.
 Social Problems: Manitoba Temperance Alliance Report.
- 12:00-1:30 p.m. Dinner and Recess. Served by Eyford and Fjalla Ladies' Aids.
- 1:30 p.m. Devotions: Rev. John Fullmer.
 Roll Call.
- 2:00 p.m. "THE WHOLE PROGRAM OF THE WHOLE CHURCH" —
 Dr. R. H. Gerberding.
- 3:00-3:30 p.m. Discussion, Questions and Answers on above address.
- 3:30 p.m. Coffee Break.
- 4:00 p.m. Reports of Standing Committees and Auxiliaries continued:
 Evangelism Report: E. H. Sigmar.
 Stewardship Report: R. B. Vopni.
 Christian Education and Youth Work: Mrs. Bonnie Bjarnason.
 Open Discussion and Resolution.

(Continued on Page 5)

Schedule from Synod Convention cont. from Page 4

- 6:00 p.m. Supper at Svold Parish Hall by Svold (Peter's) Ladies' Aid.
 8:00 p.m. "Youth Night". Theme: "The Church of the Future" (At Peter's Church).
 Devotions by the Rev. O. Jack Larson, Pastoral Advisor of the Viking Luther League of the Icelandic Synod.
 Opening Remarks: Margaret Gudmundson, President of Mountain Parish Luther League.
 Brief Addresses: Seminarian Donald Olsen, Seminarian Barry Day, Local Luther Leaguers: Walter Flanagan, Carol Pleasance and Herman Bjarnason.
 Closing Remarks: Dorothy Einarson, President of Gardar Luther League.
 Musical Numbers by Vidalins Choir, and Hallson-Peter's Choir.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25th:

- 7:00 a.m. Laymen's Breakfast for Men Delegates and Men of the Parish.
 Presiding: Mr. R. B. Vopni, Member Lutheran Laymen's Movement, U.L.C.A.
 Address: Dr. Gerberding: "What the LLM Means to the ULCA."
 Remarks: "What the LLM Means to the Synod", Synod Secretary.
 9:00 a.m. Devotions: Rev. A. Neubauer.
 Business Sessions continued:
 a. Convention Committee on Publications.
 b. Convention Committee on Evangelism.
 c. Convention Committee on Stewardship and Sector Project.
 d. Convention Committee on Missions (From President's Report).
 e. Convention Committee on Finance.
 12:00 a.m. Dinner served by Hallson Ladies' Aid (At Vikur Church).
 1:30 p.m. Special Memorial Service for Pastor G. Guttormsson conducted by President of Synod, and Rev. E. S. Brynjolfsson.
 Address: Rev. K. K. Olafsson.
 2:00 p.m. Special Address by Dr. George Berkheimer, Board of Pensions and Relief.
 Discussion.
 3:30 p.m. Coffee Break.
 4:00 p.m. Special Report of Building Committee of Betel Home.
 Report of Convention Committee for Homes for the Aged.
 Unfinished Convention Committee Reports.
 6:00 p.m. Supper at Gardar Church served by Gardar Ladies' Aid.
 8:00 p.m. "Laymen's Night." Opening Devotions by Rev. Dr. Vjeylands.
 Opening Remarks by Mr. Leo Hillman, President United Lutheran Church Men, Mountain Parish.
 Brief Addresses on the Theme: "Why I Work for the Church":
 N. O. Bardal, G. K. Halldorson, Albert Widme, Eldon Hillman, John Murdal.
 Special Address: Mr. Robert Logan, Director of United Lutheran Church Men of ULCA.
 Musical Numbers by Gardar Choir.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26th:

- 9:00 a.m. Devotions: Rev. Edward Day.
 a. Roll Call.
 b. Election of Officers.
 c. Unfinished Business.
 d. New Business.
 12:00 a.m. Dinner served by Vidalins Ladies' Aid (Vikur Church).
 1:30 p.m. Devotions: Rev. J. Fredriksson.
 Installation of President.
 Closing Exercises.

NEEDED NOW — 109 DEACONESSSES

Wanted by the Church: 109 young women who already have professional training as nurses and social workers, or who have completed their college studies in education, sociology, or music. Mature women with valuable homemaking experience can also be used. All must be in good health — mentally, emotionally and physically. A deep concern for people is the indispensable requisite. They will be given religious preparation in the deaconess schools and any necessary additional professional or vocational training. They should be ready to enroll in a deaconess school by the fall of 1957.

This is not a call for tomorrow's deaconesses but for the women needed today. Today 42 congregations are waiting for parish deaconesses, 12 others for directors of Christian education, 7 for Christian kindergarten teachers, 3 for a combination of parish deaconess and director of music. Social mission societies are

asking for 11 deaconesses trained as professional case workers and group workers. Hospitals and health agencies have filed applications for 27 graduate nurses for supervisory positions. There is an immediate need for 7 institutional workers among children and the aged. These needed and qualified women are in your synod! Perhaps you are one of them; if not, you surely know someone to whom this urgent call of the Church should be given.

Needed to prepare as deaconesses for the very near tomorrow are a host of Lutheran girls graduating from high school this year and next. They will be eligible to begin their training in the fall following their high school graduation. These, too, are in your synod.

Please urge these women and girls to write to Sister Eleanor Jamieson, Personnel Secretary of the Board of Deaconess Work, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.



PARISH NEWS FLASHES

MOUNTAIN PARISH

Vikur Congregation, Mountain

A meeting of the Church Councilmen of all the congregations of the parish was held in the Mountain Church, April 24. The main topic of the evening was the Sector Project.

The Luther League continues to meet regularly once a month. The Youth Rally held May 2 in the Mountain Church was a splendid success. The delegates representing this parish in Winnipeg were: Jan-yce Gudmundson, Janet Goodman, Coral Christianson and Roger Bjornson.

A communion service was held on Palm Sunday, April 14. New members were welcomed into the Vikur congregation at this service. Easter services were held on Good Friday this year.

A service dedicated to the 4-H Clubs was held April 28. 4-H members took part in the service. Mr. Wm. Olgeirson, leader of the "Sunnyside" Club, gave a talk on the aims and purposes of the 4-H Club work. Vilmar Kirstjanson and Rod-

ney Byron are assistant leaders. Mrs. Jack Thorfinson and Mrs. Sig Stein-alfson are leaders of the girl's club.

An evening of beautiful music was enjoyed by the Mountain Parish when five choirs participated in a concert held in the Mountain Church April 28. The Vikur choir opened the program, then girls and ladies of the Peter's-Hallson choir sang two members, the Vidalin choir came next, then the Eyford men's choir and the Gardar choir. Dr. V. J. Eylands, pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Winnipeg, gave a speech. An occasion like this helps us to feel we are one parish although we have our individual Churches. The offering, amounting to \$65.17, was for Lutheran World Action. The women of the Vikur congregation served lunch.

The Sunday School Teacher's Convention held in Winnipeg May 5, was attended by Mrs. Wm. Halldorson, Mrs. Wm. Olgeirson, Mr. Arnold Christianson, Mr. Alvin Okeson and Pastor Skulason. Miss Eleanor Gilstrom accompanied them back and had two meetings in the Church.

(Continued on Page 7)

(News Flashes from Page 6)

One meeting was for the teachers of the Vacation Church School, scheduled to start June 3 and the other was for Sunday School teachers and Council men. Both meetings were fairly well attended and interest was evident.

Baccalaureate services were held May 19. The choir rendered the anthem "The Lord is Mindful of His Own." There were sixteen graduates in both High School and grades.

A mass choir, under the direction of Mr. Theodore Thorliefson, is being trained for the Synod Convention in June. Choir members from all the congregations in the parish are taking part. Mrs. Wm. Olgeirson is the organist.

The men of the Church meet every month. They are sponsoring a layman's breakfast in connection with the Synod Convention.

The ladies of the Church are going ahead with preparations for the Convention. A meeting of the committees from each one of the congregations was held in Mountain Church May 10. Mrs. K. Dinuson was elected chairman. A schedule was prepared and meals planned.

—Mrs. Jack Thorfinson

HALLSON PARISH

The Hallson congregation has combined their services with the Peter's Church of Svold and we feel that our Church life has been greatly benefited by this change.

We worked together during Mission week and found that we had a better choir, larger attendance and better understanding of Christian fellowship.

We have had an increase in our Church membership and found that we have more active members in the Church life than before.

We are now in the midst of making preparations for the coming Convention of Synod which will be held June 23rd-26th and which will be hosted by all Churches of the parish. We pray that it will be a very successful convention.

Several members from our Church have joined the Men's Club of the Church and report some very fine meetings and find good cooperation from all Churches in the parish.

We held Pastor's classes following Mission week and during the winter

months. We hope to start them again in early Fall or shortly after the Fall harvest.

Our Sunday School has opened for the summer session with 30 members enrolled. Mrs. Eggert Einarson is our superintendent.

We have five members in our Sunday School who are studying the Catechism with our pastor. This class will be Confirmed next year.

The Vacation Bible School will be held at Mountain, N.D., the week of June 3rd, for all the Churches in the parish. We had Vacation Bible School last year and our attendance was about 80 pupils. We hope to have even better attendance this year.

Miss Gillstrom of Winnipeg, Man., has been with us for two days giving helpful instructions and information to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teachers in this parish.

We are grateful to Rev. Olafur Skulason for his able and willing leadership in our Church and social life as well and with the cooperation of all members he can work wonders in our parish.

—Emily Spangelo

ARGYLE PARISH

The work of the parish has been prospering and here are some of the details of the work:

Baptisms at Bru:

Robert Brian, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bjorn Hallgrimson; Valerie Lynn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Helgi Sveinson.

Baptisms at Baldur:

Dora Jo-Anne and Asgeir Grant, children of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Peterson; Ashley William, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. F. Peterson; Harold Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Parsonage.

Baptisms at Glenboro:

Margaret Laura, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nills Lambertson; Francine Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Jonsson.

Confirmation at Baldur:

John William Frederickson, Edwin Sveina Sveinnson, Garry Lyall Clark, Sharon Anne Clark and Patricia Colleen Christopherson.

Confirmation at Glenboro June 9:

Donald Lynn Heidman, Thomas Rond Oleson, Harold Lynden Hallson, Hansina Sigrid Gudnason, Sharon Lynne Frederickson, Donna

(Continued on Page 8)

(News Flashes from Page 7)

Joel and Beatrice Marion Storm.

Weddings:

May 11th: Helen Katherine Josephson and James Isaac of Sinclair, Man. May 18th: Guelda Mae Sampson and John Daniel Bottrell of Edmonton.

The Argyle representatives to the Ladies' Aid Convention at Arborg May 30th to June 2 were: Mrs. B. K. Johnson, Mrs. Oli Arason, Mrs. B. S. Johnson and Mrs. A. Bjornson.

All the Ladies' Aids of the parish have had their annual Spring Bazaars and each bazaar was a huge success.

The children and adults are looking forward to the annual Sunday School Picnic of the parish held on June 16.

—Hansina Gunnlaugson

RIVERTON PARISH

While Rev. W. A. Mellenbacher (director of Evangelism for Canada) was visiting our northern parish, we had the pleasure of having him conduct a service in Riverton Sunday, May 5. Our pastor took over at Gimli owing to Rev. Fullmer's absence.

We were very fortunate to have Mr. Neville (our bank manager) volunteer to be the superintendent of our Sunday School for this term. Mrs. Beatrice Olafson, our former superintendent, was unable to take over again this year. We wish to thank her for her past services.

Several meetings were held in Riverton and Arborg and some members of all the congregations in the northern parish attended to discuss the need of a new parsonage. There were two lovely homes available, one in Arborg and the other in Riverton. Naturally both wanted to have the parsonage in their town. However it was decided to buy the one in Arborg. The old parsonage was taken in part payment on the new one.

Mrs. Laufey Olson will be coming to our northern parish around July 1st to help with mission work. We all welcome her back again. She conducted a Daily Vacation Bible School in several of our churches last summer. Her work was greatly appreciated. The children are looking forward to seeing her again.

Sunday, May 26th, Pastor Larson

baptized eight children in our Church and we had a very good attendance at the service.

The delegates elected from Riverton to attend our annual convention at Mountain, N.D., June 23rd to 26th are as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Thorarinson and Mr. Sigtryggur Thorarinson.

—Emma Briem

GIMLI PARISH

On June 2 the new addition to Betel Old Folks' Home at Gimli was formally dedicated. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. S. Olafsson of Selkirk, president of the Board of Trustees. The choir of the Gimli Lutheran Church led the singing, accompanied by Mrs. Clifford Stevens. The keys of the building were presented to the synod president, Dr. V. J. Eylands, who brought the message. Rev. John Fullmer and Rev. Eric Sigmar read the lessons and Rev. Eric Sigmar sang a solo, "Bless This House."

Greetings were brought by Barney Egilson, mayor of Gimli; the Hon. R. W. Bend, Manitoba Minister of Health and Welfare; Rev. P. M. Petursson; Dr. P. H. T. Thorlaksson, chairman of the building committee and Rev. S. Olafsson. Among the large crowd who attended the dedication were the delegates to the annual convention of the Lutheran Women's League of Manitoba (Icelandic Synod) who came down from their meeting place at Arborg for the occasion. Coffee and refreshments were served to all by members of Gimli women's organizations and the staff of the Home.

A group of young people went to Winnipeg May 24 to assist in forming a Synodical Luther League. Harold Bjarnason was elected treasurer of the League. The newly formed Viking Luther League will send a delegate, Hedy Johnson of Arborg, to the meeting of Synod at Mountain, June 23rd to 26th.

In The Voice of the North, Pastors Fullmer and Larson devote a whole page to Luther League news, and are working hard to interest the young people in attending Sunrise Camp at Husavick.

Since the ferry to Hecla started regular operations for the season, Pastor Fullmer has added weekly Sunday services on the island to his

(Continued on Page 9)

TRANSMITTED to Ministers and Congregations . . .

THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
Office of the Secretary

To all ULCA Ministers and Congregations:

March 18, 1957

The ULCA Executive Board and the synodical stewardship chairmen met simultaneously in New York in January. In joint meetings of those two groups plans were developed looking forward to the stewardship advances to which our church has committed itself in 1957, 1958 and 1959, with special emphasis upon 1958, the ULCA's 40th anniversary year.

At the request of the Executive Board, Executive Director Dr. Henry Endress reported the final formulation of those impressive and hope-bearing plans to that board. At the conclusion of his presentation, the Executive Board adopted the following recommendation:

"The Committee on Departments and Auxiliaries has reviewed the plans of the Department of Stewardship and the Lutheran Laymen's Movement for Stewardship for realizing the budget proposed by the ULCA in 1958 as a fitting commemoration of its fortieth anniversary and therefore **RECOMMENDS** that the executive Board **commends** those plans as far-sighted, wise, and practical and urges the full cooperation and participation of our synods and congregations toward their realization."

As everybody knows, the "Sector Project for Christian Stewardship" is a significant and spiritually stimulating part of the ULCA's 1957-1961 stewardship program. The Executive Board expressed its approval of that project in the following words:

"Anticipating a growth in grace as the church gives itself more fully to our Lord's calling through preaching the Gospel and the dedication of individual lives, and mindful of the development of leadership in Christian stewardship within congregations, synods, boards and agencies, the Executive Board **endorses** the Sector Project for Christian Stewardship and requests the secretary of the church to make its endorsement known to all pastors and congregations."

We transmit this commendation and endorsement to the ministers and congregations of our church in the confidence that they will be vigorously affirmed by the responding actions of our synods and congregations.

Loyally yours,
F. Eppling Reinartz, Secretary,
The United Lutheran Church
in America.

CONFIDENT of Vigorous Affirmation . . . Responding Action

(News Flashes from Page 8)

list of five others. He has missed only one Sunday at Hecla since then, due to rough seas which stopped the operation of the ferry. This is the first time Hecla has been receiving regular Sunday services and for the pastor to be able to travel the long distance there on Sunday afternoons between his other services is quite a remarkable accomplishment.

Gimli, Arborg and Riverton and the rural parishes of the area are

fortunate in that the U.L.C.A. has granted them the services of a deaconess for one year. Sister Laufey Olson, who spent last summer in the area, arrives in the district July 1 to take charge of parish work and education. We shall be happy to have her experienced assistance in our work and are most grateful to the U.L.C.A. Board of Missions for helping us in this way.

—(Mrs.) Ethel Howard

(Continued on Page 12)

STEWARDSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

To The Seventy-Third Annual Convention

Part I

Dear Christian Brethren:

"Christian Stewardship" is possibly the most maligned and misunderstood term heard or referred to in our church lives. This is because the meaning of the term is not clearly known to most of us, and is always associated with money. I will try to explain my understanding of the term "Christian Stewardship" for the purpose of inspiring some thought about it and possibly a better understanding of it.

Christian Stewardship is the giving of oneself to God out of love for Him, and in thanksgiving for all the bountiful blessings, and many sacrifices made by Him for us. It is the giving of oneself to Jesus Christ out of love for Him, and in thanksgiving for His gifts and promises to us — the greatest of all being salvation through Him.

In church every Sunday we solemnly and sincerely confess our faith — Christian Stewardship is the living of that faith throughout our lives. It is the total commitment of oneself — time, talent and treasure — out of love for Him and in gratitude for His gifts of the time and the talent used to produce the treasure. In church every Sunday we solemnly sing "We give Thee but Thine Own — Whate'er the Gift May Be — All that we have is Thine Alone — A Trust, Oh Lord, From Thee."

Let us read the words of this offertory once more, for in the believing of them, "Christian Stewardship" ceases to be a problem and becomes a privilege. The offertory also says "What'ere the gift may be." This serves to remind us that the amount of the gift is not important — it is the degree of faith and love it expresses that is the guide. The amount of the gift is a matter between the giver and his God. The giver is the only one who will know to what extent it is the measure of his faith and will have to reconcile it in his own heart, and with his own God.

The only reason that "Christian Stewardship" has become associated so strongly with money is that on the evolution of world economy all services, products, talents and efforts

have their modern equation in dollars and cents. Some of our older church members can recall days when this was not the case. In those days the practice of "Christian Stewardship" was evidenced by the pledging of produce; or, time and talent in construction of church buildings. In those days when a church was to be built a man would pledge 100, 200 or 300 hours of labor while today he pledges the money he has accepted for those hours of labor from his employer. Anyone who will pause and contemplate the change in economic structure of our lives today will easily understand why there appears to be an emphasis on money.

In order that Synods, Congregations and individual church members would have a better understanding and first-hand knowledge of the meaning of and need for "Christian Stewardship," the Lutheran Laymen's Movement for Stewardship developed an instructional and operational program called "The Sector Project for Christian Stewardship." Those congregations who offered to test the Project found it to be very effective and have the educational and inspirational results for Stewardship that the Church-wide Evangelism Mission had on membership.

The "Sector Project for Christian Stewardship" has received the commendation and endorsement of the Executive Board of the United Lutheran Church in America. It has also received the commendation and endorsement of the Executive Board of our Synod. It now becomes a matter for action by each and every Church Council in our Synod. Where it was feasible within the time Mr. Fiene had available, there were meetings with Church Councilmen to explain the "Project" to them and answer their questions. For those who were unable to attend these meetings I will attempt to give a brief resume of the carrying out of the "Project".

1. General Committee: The Chairman of the General Committee should be carefully chosen and appointed by the Pastor. He and the Pastor then select men to chair the

(Continued on Page 11)

(Report Continued from Page 10)
required committees: Research, Proposal, Survey, Publicity, Visitations, who become the members of the General Committee.

2. The Planning Phase: The program is launched in these ways: First, the Research Committee devotes its energies to a thorough analysis and self-study of the congregation's life and work. A work booklet is provided for help in this task. Next, aided also by a work-book, the Proposal Committee seeks to discover what the congregation is like, what it could be like, and how it can become what God expects it to be. Finally, the Survey Committee, a cross section of the church's membership using forms designed for the purpose, determines in as nearly a logical and deeply spiritual way as possible the actual stewardship potentials God has placed in the congregation.

3. The Cultivation Phase: At this point a Publicity Committee sets out to develop in every member an understanding of personal Christian stewardship, an active commitment of thought, word and deed to Christ, and a real concern for the work of the church both at home and at large. The committee contributes to the effort, along with the leadership, preaching and counseling of the Pastor, with letters, posters; publicity folders, etc. It organizes meetings for the instruction and inspiration of the congregation and promotes attendance at worship services and meetings.

4. The Visitation Phase: This is the high point of the program. An adequate visiting organization, headed by the Visits Chairman, is recruited and trained to take part in the exciting experience of telling others about their faith, and sees to it that all are invited to make their commitments. Every member of the congregation is then confronted with the opportunity to respond to God's love with his own, through the Every Member Visit.

This will serve to give you a brief idea of how the Sector Project for Christian Stewardship is performed. I realize that it will likely create questions in the minds of some. I suggest that we do not take time from the Convention for this purpose, but, I will be at the disposal of any and all who may have questions at any time and will attempt

to answer them to the best of my ability.

Finally it is my earnest desire that this Convention approve the duplex envelope for use of all congregations in our Synod. It is my belief that the individual member in the pew of each of our churches should have the opportunity to indicate where he or she desires his or her gift to be used. In congregations not using duplex envelopes it becomes the responsibility of the Council to decide on apportionment payments. This is a responsibility which I believe is unfair to the Council. By the use of the duplex envelope the treasurer automatically remits the total of the red side to the Synodical treasurer.

This will conclude Part I of my report declaring my understanding of the meaning of Christian Stewardship and my belief that the Sector Project for Christian Stewardship should be used by all of our congregations for the furtherance of God's work in our Synod and throughout our Church.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Vopni,

Acting Stewardship Secretary

POINT ROBERTS PARISH

(News Flashes from Page 9)

Easter was celebrated with a special service at the Sunday School. We had a large gathering of youngsters and parents. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion and nature smiled on us with beautiful sunny weather.

The annual meeting was held at the home of Mrs. L. Thorsteinson. The officers were re-elected unanimously namely: Mrs. A. Thorsteinson, president; Mrs. J. C. Baker, secretary; Mrs. B. Thordarson, treasurer. The repair of the church building was voted as a must during the coming year.

Plans are being made for our annual salmon barbecue which will be held on July 21st.

The Sunday School has continued to prosper. We had our first picnic at Easter time and every one enjoyed themselves very much. We plan to discontinue for July and August, due to pressure of work for our teachers and inability to find any substitutes.

FROM SYNOD'S FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dear Christian Brethren:

We present herewith a report on Receipts for Apportioned Benevolence for the year ended 31st May 1957. It has been presented in order of achievement for your consideration.

In reflecting on the position in the list of your congregation, if, in

your opinion, its results can be considered the maximum effort of every member, its name should justly be placed at the top of the list. If, however, in your opinion, it is not the maximum effort of every member, it is time to reflect on what each and every one of us can do to improve its position.

Congregation	No. of		Receipts	% Ap'tment	\$ per Capita
	Members	Ap'tment			
St. Stephens, St. James	119	\$ 487.90	\$ 753.07	154.3	\$6.33
St. Pauls, Minneota	175	717.50	563.00	78.5	3.22
First Lutheran, Winnipeg	669	2,742.90	2,088.00	76.1	2.99
Bru, Cypress	56	229.60	145.00	63.0	2.69
Trinity, Pt. Roberts	10	41.00	25.00	61.0	2.50
Fjalla, Milton	64	262.40	149.64	57.1	2.34
Immanuel, Baldur	66	270.66	150.00	55.4	2.72
Herthubreith, Langruth	136	557.60	307.41	55.1	2.26
Lincoln, Taunton	51	209.10	111.00	53.1	2.18
Vidalins, Hensel	110	451.00	225.00	50.0	2.05
Vikur, Mountain	162	664.20	270.86	40.8	1.67
Icelandic, Vancouver	267	1,094.70	432.40	39.4	1.62
Blaine, Blaine	74	303.40	117.30	38.7	1.59
Concordia, Churchbridge	22	90.20	30.00	33.3	1.36
Gimli, Gimli	229	938.90	306.03	32.6	1.34
Vidir, Vidir	63	258.30	76.25	29.5	1.21
Vidines, Husavik	42	172.20	50.00	29.1	1.19
Calvary, Seattle	255	1,045.50	300.00	27.7	1.17
Peters, Svold	121	496.10	125.00	25.2	1.03
Selkirk, Selkirk	241	988.10	200.00	20.3	.83
Brethvikur, Hnausa	79	323.90	54.00	16.7	.68
Arnes, Arnes	62	254.20	30.00	11.8	.48
Braethra, Riverton	263	1,078.30	114.00	10.6	.43
Ardal, Arborg	225	922.50	97.00	10.5	.43
Mikleyar, Hecla	75	307.50	30.00	9.8	.40
Betel, Silver Bay	67	274.70	24.00	8.7	.36
Lundar, Lundar	196	803.60	11.00	1.4	.06
Hallson, Hallson	43	176.30	2.00	1.1	.05
Geysir, Geysir	102	418.20			
Glenboro, Glenboro	77	315.70			
Gudbrands, Brown	46	188.60			
Grund, Baldur	18	73.80			

NOTE 1. Since the records were closed, 31st May 1957, there has been received from Grund, Baldur, a cheque for the full amount of their apportionment.

NOTE 2. The above report includes only receipts on Apportioned Benevolence for member congregations. A full statement of all Receipts, both Apportioned and Unapportioned Benevolences, will be presented to the Convention.

SEATTLE PARISH

(News Flashes from Page 9)

A son, Paul Martin, was born to Rev. and Mrs. Nelson on April 6th.

The congregation picnic will be held June 9th at Lake Meridian. The worship services will be held outdoors at the picnic site.

The Church School staff decided to have Church School all through

the summer. It will be held at 9:30. The church service is planned for the same hour to make it possible for the family to come at one early hour.

The delegates to the Church Convention are Mr. and Mrs. Steve Scheving. The alternates are Mr. Roy Olason and Mrs. Stony Hermann.